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Letter dated 30 November 2000 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement on the situation in Guinea-Bissau issued on 29 November 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jean-David **Levitte**
Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 30 November 2000 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Statement on the situation in Guinea-Bissau issued on 29 November 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union is pleased that the lawful constitution of Guinea-Bissau has been upheld, despite the attempt at destabilization on 20 November 2000 and the clashes that have cast a shadow over the country.

Its full support goes to the legitimate authorities in their efforts to bring about national reconciliation and consolidate democracy. In this connection, the European Union will be particularly alert to action to further human rights and civil liberties, with due regard for political, cultural and religious diversity.

It is concerned that the programme of demobilization and restructuring of the armed forces should be brought to a successful conclusion.

It urges the authorities to abide closely by the principle of good governance, which it regards as particularly important.

On this basis, the European Union wishes to reaffirm its readiness to assist Guinea-Bissau in its national reconstruction effort. It calls on the international community to join in the task.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with the present statement.